

Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



A

P

C

(

)

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

—

ADVERTISER

FARM AND HOME HOUR

WRITER

PROGRAM TITLE

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS #391

OK

CHICAGO OUTLET

WMAQ-BLUE

(11:30-12:30) PM
TIME

(JUNE 21, 1940)
DATE

(FRIDAY)
DAY

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

1. ANNOUNCER: "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers"

2. MUSIC: Ranger Song

3. ANNOUNCER: Our forests here in America represent one of our richest
4. possessions. They mean far more to us, in fact, than
5. most of us realize. The sheer beauty of the forest is, in itself, a
6. masterpiece worth protecting and saving, but the contributions of the
7. forest to human welfare are of fundamental importance. And these
8. contributions of the forests to our everyday living we need to under-
9. stand better and prize far more highly. The United States Forest
10. Service tells us that in 1936, for example, our forest resources
11. directly furnished yearlong employment for more than three and three
12. quarters million men and women. And if we included those employed in
13. the manufacture of logging equipment and processing machinery and the
14. doctors, lawyers, teachers, storekeepers and others in the forest-
15. dependent communities we could add a year's employment for at least
16. a million more. In other words our forest resource creates the
17. payroll for nearly five million wage earners as well as support for
18. all these workers' families. And that isn't all. The Forest Service
19. says that if the ultimate forest production and utilization program
20. could be applied and carried through, the employment contribution of
21. our forest resources could be doubled. And since gainful work and
22. income enough for a decent living for everyone now transcend every
23. other social and economic need we might all well look to our forests
24. and see what needs to be done.

25. (MORE)

1. ANNOUNCER: (CONTINUES) Out on the Pine Cone National Forest today
2. Ranger Jim Robbins and his assistant ranger Jerry Quick
3. are in pretty good spirits, and for a good reason. You see there's
4. been a contest under way between all the CCC camps in the National
5. Forests of the Region to see which one will have the best record of
6. safety. Today is the last day of the contest and Camp North Fork on
7. Ranger Jim's District hasn't had a single accident in the whole three
8. months. Well here's Ranger Jim and Jerry in the office of the Ranger
9. Station right now....

10. JERRY: (FADING IN) By George, Jim, we've worked hard on this
11. safety campaign and this is our day to howl. Just
12. think, not a single accident in that whole lot of a
13. hundred boys in the whole three months. That's a record
14. anybody could be proud of.

15. JIM: Well, we've still got today to go through without an
16. accident, Jerry, to make it a full three months.
17. Accidents can happen anytime you know.

18. JERRY: Aw I know, Jim, but those boys are so safety conscious
19. now they won't be having any accidents today or any
20. other day as long as they're here.

21. (SOUND OF CAR APPROACHING OFF MIKE)

22. JIM: H-m-m. I wonder who that can be, drivin' in here.

23. JERRY: It looks like it's an official Forest Service car, Jim.
24. It looks like the supervisor's car.

25.

1. JIM: I guess that's who it is, Jerry. Yeah, sure, it's Bert
2. Ellsworth.

3. (SOUND OF CAR PULLING TO A STOP OFF MIKE)

4. JERRY: What do you reckon he's up here for? He didn't say
5. anything to you about coming up here today, did he?

6. JIM: No he didn't, Jerry. But here he is.

7. SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS MOUNTING PORCH STEPS AND CROSSING PORCH

8. SUPER: (SLIGHTLY OFF MIKE) Howdy. Anybody home around here?

9. JIM: You bet, Bert. Come on in.

10. JERRY: Hello, Mr. Ellsworth. Glad to see you.

11. SUPER: Hello Jerry. How are you, Jim?

12. JIM: Well we're feelin' a little better than average around
13. here today, Bert. This is the last day of the regional
14. safety contest and the boys up at North Fork Camp are
15. coming through with a clean slate.

16. JERRY: That's right. No accidents in the whole three months,
17. Mr. Ellsworth.

18. SUPER: Well, that's great. What'd you fellows do -- put a
19. rabbit's foot in all those boys' pockets?

20. JERRY: (LAUGHS) No sir. We've just been taking special
21. precautions and preachin' safety at 'em morning noon
22. and night, that's all. They've had so much accident
23. prevention drilled into 'em they've even been eatin'
24. and sleepin' safety.
25.

JIM: I think the idea of a contest helped put the thing across with the boys, too, Bert. They just decided they were going to show the rest of the camps in the region what a good camp could do.

SUPER: Well, I hope they won't get out of the idea now that the contest's over. That's one of the troubles with these contests -- once they're over and done with the boys get just as careless as they were before.

JERRY: Oh no sir -- not the boys up at North Fork. They're really safety conscious, Mr. Ellsworth. They've already said they're going to go right ahead, contest or no contest, and hang up a safety record that'll never be equalled or broken. They're real boys up there.

SUPER: (LAUGHS) Well, that's the spirit, Jerry. Stand up for the home team. And don't worry, down there in the supervisor's office we're just as proud of the record the boys up at North Fork made as you and Jim are here.

JIM: Well, Jerry deserves most of the credit for putting the safety angle over, Bert. He's been going up there to give the boys a pep talk in the evenings a couple times every week. And he's been teachin' a class in first aid that's got 'em all interested.

JERRY: Aw it isn't that Jim. It's the boys themselves that deserve the credit. And after all, it's for their own good.

SOUND OF DOOR OPENING - CHAIRS SCRAPING ON FLOOR

1. SUPER: Well, look who's here. Hello Bess.

2. BESS: (COMING ON) I could hardly believe it was you when I saw

3. you driving up to the station, Bert.

4. JIM: What've you got there in that pitcher, Bess --

5. refreshments?

6. BESS: Yes, it's such a hot day I thought you and Jerry might

7. like some fresh lemonade and I was just fixing it when

8. Bert drove in.

9. SUPER: (LAUGHS) I knew if I stopped in here I wouldn't get

10. away without something nice. But I'll say this. Some

11. fresh lemonade after that dusty road up the mountain sure

12. will taste good to me.

13. BESS: Well, you men help yourselves. I made plenty of it.

14. SOUND OF GLASSES AND LIQUID BEING POURED

15. BESS: How's all your family, Bert? Has Mrs. Ellsworth been

16. suffering with her hay fever again this summer?

17. BERT: Well, not so much Bess. She's feeling pretty fine.

18. JERRY: U-m-m boy. This lemonade sure hits the spot, Mrs.

19. Robbins.

20. JIM: Yeah. I been thinkin' about puttin' Bess in as a

21. regular part of our firefighting organization, Bert.

22. We could use her as official lemonade mixer.

23. SUPER: (LAUGHS) If you're smart you won't be taking any chances

24. like that, Jim. Once these firefighters find out what a

25. good lemonade mixer she is, you couldn't keep 'em on the

line.

1. BESS: Oh whoosh!

2. SOUND OF TELEPHONE RINGING

3. JERRY: (GULPS) Ah -- I'll get it, Jim. Sure hope that isn't
4. a fire call. (RECEIVER OFF HOOK - IN TELEPHONE)
5. Ranger station...Yep. This is Jerry...What! Oh for
6. the love of mike... Down at the Blue Hole recreation
7. area? How'd it happen?...Huh?...I see. And the
8. ambulance has already gone down, huh?

9. JIM: What's that, Jerry?

10. JERRY: (IN TELEPHONE) Yeah. Well I'll come down right away...
11. Yeah. I'll leave right now.

12. (SOUND OF RECEIVER ON HOOK)

13. BESS: What is it, Jerry? Is somebody badly hurt?

14. JERRY: Of all times for it to happen it would have to come
15. right now. Where's my hat? Right at the very last
16. minute of the very last day it would have to happen.

17. JIM: Slow down here, Jerry. What's this all about anyhow?

18. JERRY: Aw, one of the boys in that crew down there on the Blue
19. Hole campground project had some kind of an accident,
20. Jim. I got to get down there and investigate it right
21. away. Dawgonit I can't understand how it could have
22. happened. That's one of the best crews we have.

23. BESS: What happened, Jerry? Is the boy hurt badly?

24.

25.

1. JERRY: I don't know, Mrs. Robbins. The boy at the camp who
2. called didn't know much about it either. All he said
3. was that Dave Parsons, the crew foreman called the camp
4. and told 'em to send the ambulance down there as fast
5. as they could and to report the accident here to the
6. station. I've got to go.

7. JIM: Wait a minute, Jerry. Maybe Bert and I'll go along. Do
8. you want to come along, Bert?

9. BERT: Yes, I do, Jim. We'll take my car and there'll be
10. plenty of room for all of us.

11. SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS IN EXIT

12. BESS: (CALLS) Don't forget to call from the camp and let me
13. know what happened, Jim.

14. MUSIC UP AND OUT

15. SOUND OF CAR IN MOTION BACK

16. JERRY: I've told those boys and told them they've got to be
17. careful.

18. JIM: It's not your fault, Jerry. These things happen
19. sometimes in spite of all you can do.

20. JERRY: Yeah. I know there's some accidents you just don't
21. seem to be able to do anything about, but most of 'em
22. are preventable.....just like forest fires...if you can
23. get people to be careful.

24. SUPER: Didn't the boy who called in from the camp give you any
25. details of what happened at all?

1. JERRY: No. All he said was that Parsons, the foreman, seemed
2. pretty excited and wanted the ambulance sent down as
3. fast as they could get it there.

4. SUPER: What kind of work has the crew at the Blue Hole been
5. doing? Has it been pretty hazardous?

6. JIM: Well, not especially, Bert. You can't get away from
7. some hazardous work in the woods, but we've been taking
8. every possible precaution.

9. JERRY: But they had almost all of the heavy work done, Jim.
10. All there was left to do was to clean up the beach and
11. lay out that log boom at the edge of the deep water in
12. the swimming hole. I can't imagine what could have
13. happened.

14. (TENTATIVE CUT)

15. SUPER: Well, sometimes a man gets hurt in mighty peculiar ways.
16. We had an accident over at the Elk Meadows Camp on the
17. West Fork district the other day that broke a good record there for no
18. good reason at all. The boys were all done working and the foreman was
19. waitin' with 'em along the road for the truck to pick 'em up and take
20. 'em in to camp. And while they were waiting there one of the kids went
21. over to some hay stacks in a field there and like a kid will he
22. climbed up on top of one of the stacks without the foreman seeing him
23. .. and then he slid off and when he hit the ground he sprained his
24. ankle. It wasn't anything serious but it was a lost time accident
25. nevertheless. When Jake Williams, the ranger over there, got a report
on that one I guess he was ready to tear his hair out.

JIM: I can understand how he felt all right. We've had a couple like that happen here on the Winding Creek District and spoil some good safety records too.

JERRY: Yeah but I'm afraid this one is going to be a lot more serious than just a sprained ankle. You don't get old Dave Parsons all worked up and calling in for the ambulance for nothing.

(TO HERE)

JIM: Well, there's the campground. We'll know how serious it was pretty soon.

SUPER: I don't see the ambulance anywhere around.

JIM: It's not far down here from the camp, Bert. The ambulance has probably been here already and gone.

JERRY: You don't need to go all the way around to the parking area, Mr. Ellsworth. There's Dave Parsons down there on the beach. Just pull up here along the road and stop anywhere.

SOUND OF CAR PULLING TO A STOP AND MOTOR CUTTING OFF

JIM: Don't seem to be much excitement now and the boys all seem to be working.

SOUND OF CAR DOORS SLAMMING

JERRY: It's funny he didn't come up here to meet us. Maybe the boy was so badly hurt he doesn't even want to talk about it.

SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS ON ROCKS AND WALKING THROUGH BRUSH

1. SUPER: This campground is certainly shaping up fine, Jim.
2. Looks like the boys have been doing a lot of work
3. around here.
4. JIM: Yeah, Bert. We feel pretty proud of what we've done
5. here, but we sure don't want to remember it by any bad
6. accidents.
7. PARSONS: (SLIGHTLY OFF - GRUFF BUT KINDLY MAN, MIDDLE AGE -
8. QUIETLY) Hello, Jim.
9. JIM: Hello Dave.
10. DAVE: Hello, Jerry.
11. JERRY: What happened, Dave?
12. JIM: This is Dave Parsons, Bert... the foreman on this job.
13. Dave, this is Bert Ellsworth, our forest supervisor.
14. SUPER: Hello Dave. Looks like you've been doing some fine
15. work around here. But I hear you've had a pretty bad
16. accident.
17. DAVE: Uh... yessir... uh ... it seems like they will happen.
18. JERRY: Tell us about it, Dave. We hurried down here as fast
19. as we could.
20. DAVE: Well, I don't like much to talk about it, Jerry.
21. BOYS LOUD LAUGHTER IN BACKGROUND
22. DAVE: (CALLS) Hey you two...what're you up to over there?
23. Hurry up and get that brush piled.
24. JIM: Just start at the beginning, Dave, and tell us exactly
25. how it happened.

1. DAVE: Well to tell you the truth Jim I ... well, it happened
2. right here on the beach, see.
3. JERRY: There's some spots that look like blood here on this
4. rock.
5. DAVE: Yeah that's blood all right, Jerry.
6. SUPER: It would be better if he showed us the details right
7. from the beginning, wouldn't it Jim? That way we could
8. get a better idea of just what took place.
9. DAVE: Well, I don't like to talk about it... but you see, the
10. truck was backed up here right close to the water on the
11. beach just like it is now and we had a load of logs on
12. it for the swimmin' boom out there and of course we had
13. to unload the logs so we put a couple of skid poles up
14. there from the back of the truck down to the ground just
15. like them two are there now ... like you see. Well ...
16. are you sure you want to hear the rest of it, Jim?
17. JIM: I'm afraid you'll have to tell us the whole story, Dave.
18. JERRY: Sure. We don't want to hear it any more than you want
19. to tell it, Dave, but you've got to go through with it.
20. DAVE: You sure you want to hear it too, Mr. Ellsworth? Maybe
21. it would be better if I just told Jim and Jerry here.
22. SUPER: No, don't mind about me. Just go ahead with the story.
23.
24.
25.

DAVE: Well we skidded a couple or three of these here logs down out of the truck to the ground and I cautioned the boys to be mighty keerful to keep out of the way in case one of'em went rolling the wrong way or got loose or something. And one of the boys was standin' right here like I'm standin' now and he had a canthook wrestlin' one of them logs down the skid here ... when all of a sudden and for no reason at all as far as I could see... I looked at them skid poles afore I let the boys put 'em up there on the truck ... well, anyhow, that there skid on the right side there broke, and the log come down and the kid jumped back but it caught him right on the foot... leastways that's the way it looked to me. And he hollered like bloody murder. Well I lifted the log up ... you can see they ain't very heavy logs ... and the kid pulled his foot out moanin' and groanin' like it was hurt real bad. I didn't examine his foot or anything right then but I spotted that spot a blood there on that rock and I figured he must be hurt real bad so I ran over to the telephone and called up for the ambulance to come on down here right away. And the ambulance came all right. It got here in nothin' flat.

JERRY: But what about the boy?

DAVE: Well, I was comin' to that, Jerry. I'm not right sure I ought to tell it right here in front of Supervisor Ellsworth and all but when I come runnin' back from the telephonin' for the ambulance the kid was up an' kind of limp'in' about like a kid will when he's bumped his toe or something you know, and I asked him and he said he guessed it wasn't anything serious at all. Fact a the matter is he's one a them two over there pilin' that brush on the beach that just let out that big haw haw.

JIM: That kid over there? He don't look like he's hurt much.

DAVE: Yeah ... I made him take his shoe off so I could look at his foot, but there wasn't a mark on it anywhere's atall that I could see. He was just scared, I reckon. That's what made him holler like he did. The log missed him full and completely but he just thought he'd been hit. He would have been, Jerry, if I hadn't remembered your instructions and had him standin' back where he could jump outa the way if something like what happened should happen. Yessir he might have been hurt right bad. But what about that blood there? Where'd all the blood come from?

JERRY:

DAVE: Well sir. That's the thing that threw me off too, Jerry. I confess seein' that blood stampeded me right bad. I took one look and just ran right over to the telephone and called the ambulance. Well sir, when I got to lookin around ... when I lifted up that log ... there was a great big bull frog squashed flat as a pancake. He musta been settin' there on that rock all the time and when that log come down like it did she got him ... knocked him plum flat.

JIM: (BEGINNING TO CHUCKLE) Then you mean to say you called that ambulance down here and got us all steamed up all on account of an accident to a bull frog?

DAVE: Well, yes sir, Jim. I'm right sorry about it all but I reckon that's just what I did.

JIM, JERRY AND SUPERVISOR LAUGH HEARTILY

JIM: (LAUGHING) Well, Jerry, I guess that's one accident we don't need to count. I reckon our camp's going to win that safety contest after all.

LAUGHTER FADING

MUSIC: FINALE

ANNOUNCER: Well, that was a good joke on everybody but the frog. But it's certainly good to know that safety is a major consideration in all the work of our CCC boys in the forests. Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you every Friday on the Nation Farm and Home Hour as a presentation of the National Broadcasting Company with the cooperation of the United States Forest Service.

